

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0793

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: INITIAL VOICE SWITCHED NETWORK (IVSN) SPECIFICATION

REFS: A. STATE 283839

B. USNATO 678

SUMMARY: MISSION HAS OBTAINED INFORMATION ON NICSMA SPECIFICATION FOR COMMON-CHANNEL SIGNALLING IN IVSN SWITCH. THE SPECIFICATION DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL FEATURES RECOMMENDED BY US IN REF A, BUT NICSMA HAS ATTEMPTED TO AVOID SLANTING IT TO FAVOR ANY PARTICULAR CONTENDER. ALTHOUGH THE SPECIFICATION LEAVES ROOM FOR SOME UNCERTAINTIES, IT IS AS SPECIFIC AS NICSMA BELIEVES POSSIBLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. MISSION BELIEVES IVSN AND TOTAL NICS PROGRAM WOULD BE HURT IF THE IVSN PROGRAM AGAIN IS QUESTIONED IN THE NJCED MEETING IN MARCH 1975. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE US ACCEPT THE SPECIFICATIONS, IF POSSIBLE, FOLLOWING THE NICSMA BRIEFING ON FEB 18. THIS RECOMMENDATION IS A CHANGE FROM THE COURSE PROPOSED IN REF B. REQUEST GUIDANCE FEB 18, 1975. END SUMMARY.

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1. MISSION HAS OBTAINED INFORMATION ON THE COURSE NICSMA IS TAKING IN SPECIFICATION OF COMMON-CHANNEL SIGNALLING IN THE IVSN. THE SPECIFICATION IS FUNCTIONAL, AND NICSMA HAS CAREFULLY AVOIDED DELIBERATELY FAVORING ANY OF THE KNOWN CONTENDERS.

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS DESCRIBE THE SPECIFICATION ADDRESSAL OF US RECOMMENDATIONS IN REF A.

A. PER-CHANNEL SUPERVISION IS PERMITTED, BUT IF USED, THE SCHEME MUST BE POSITIVE AND MUST PROVIDE SUPERVISORY SIGNALLING PERFORMANCE FUNCTIONALLY EQUIVALENT TO CCITT NO. 6.

B. THE CONTRACTOR MAY RECOMMEND EITHER 1200 OF 2400 BAUD, FULL OR HALF-DUPLEX, SYNCHRONOUS OR ASYNCHRONOUS COMMON CHANNEL OPERATIONS.

C. THE IVSN COMMON CHANNEL EQUIPMENT WILL BE REQUIRED TO INTERFACE WITH ENVISIONED NATO MEDIUM-SPEED ENCRYPTION EQUIPMENT.

D. THE CONTRACTOR MAY PROPOSE BASELINE SIGNALLING SYSTEMS OTHER THAN CCITT NO. 6; HOWEVER, COMPLETE DOCUMENTATION OF THE SYSTEM MUST ACCOMPANY THE BID SUBMISSION. THE BIDDER MUST DEMONSTRATE CORRELATION.

2. NICSMA MANAGEMENT STILL STRIVES TO FOLLOW "OFF-THE-SHELF" DIRECTION BY NJCEC TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, THEREBY HOPING TO ACHIEVE BROADEST POSSIBLE COMPETITIVE BASE. CONSEQUENTLY, SPECIFICATIONS FOR COMMON-CHANNEL SIGNALLING DO NOT STATE DETAILED DESIGN REQUIREMENTS. RESULTING FREEDOM LEADS TO UNCERTAINTIES IN SOME PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS. FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE OPEN ISSUES.

A. NO REQUIREMENT FOR A PRIORITY SCHEME FOR INDIVIDUAL CALL SET-UP MESSAGES PASSED OVER SIGNALLING CHANNEL. EFFECT IS THAT SET-UP MESSAGES FOR HIGH-PRECEDENCE CALLS MUST WAIT IN A FIRST IN- FIRST OUT CUE.

B. NO SPECIFIED DOCTRINE FOR PREEMPTION. "HOSTILE" TRUNK PREEMPTION WILL BE ACCEPTABLE, WITH RESULT THAT A HIGH-PRECEDENCE CALL MAY BE INTERRUPTED WHILE A LOWER PRECEDENCE ONE CONTINUES.
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C. NO SPECIFIED BIT RATE OR CIRCUIT MODE FOR SIGNALLING CHANNEL. EITHER 1200 OR 2400 BAUD, HALF DUPLEX OF FULL DUPLEX WILL BE ACCEPTABLE. BIDDER MUST DEMONSTRATE ADEQUACY OF HIS CHOICE. HALF-DUPLEX COULD LEAD TO LONGER CALL SET-UP TIME. CONVEIVABLY, HIGH PRECENDENE CALLS COULD BE DELAYED IF A SWITCH USED A HALF-DUPLEX SIGNALLING CHANNEL WITH NO PRIORITY SCHEME FOR SENDING SET-UP MESSAGES.

3. AT SUGGESTION OF RESIDENT GERMAN NATIONAL EXPERT, NICSMA IS INCLUDING REQUIREMENT FOR AUTOMATIC SWITCH-OVER OF SIGNALLING EQUIPMENT TO ANY AVAILABLE VOICE TRUNK UPON DETECTION OF FAILURE OF ONE IN USE. ALTERNATIVES SUCH AS SWITCH-OVER TO CERTAIN PRE-DESIGNATED VOICE TRUNKS MAY BE CHEAPER, BUT MISSION

CANNOT EVALUATE.

4. NICSMA HAS EXPERIENCED INTENSE PRESSURE FROM GERMANY, US, AND CANADA ON IVSN SPECIFICATIONS. MISSION BELIEVES THAT NICSMA HAS MADE SINCERE EFFORT TO AVOID SLANTING SPECIFICATIONS TO FAVOR OR TO PENALIZE EITHER US OR GERMAN CONTENDERS FOR THIS PROJECT, GIVEN THAT COMMON-CHANNEL SIGNALLING IS REQUIRED. SOME NICSMA OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT ONE OR BOTH OF THE PRINCIPAL CONTENDERS MAY DROP OUT IF SPECIFICATIONS BECOME MORE DEFINITIVE. MISSION IS SENDING FORMAL NICSMA RESPONSE TO REF A BY SEPTEL.

5. MISSION WAS INFORMED BY A US INDUSTRIAL REPRESENTATIVE THAT US MAY ARGUE THAT NJCEC FOR ADOPTION OF CCITT NO. 6 AS SOLE SIGNALLING SCHEME. THIS COURSE COULD BACKFIRE, BECAUSE GERMANY CAN PRESENT PLAUSIBLE ARGUMENT FOR ADOPTING AUTOKO AS THE STANDARD SWITCH. ARGUMENT FOLLOWS THESE LINES:

A. GERMAN ARMED FORCES WILL HAVE AUTOKO DEPLOYED THROUGHOUT GERMANY, WHERE MANY IVSN SWITCHES WILL BE.

B. IF NATO ADOPTS AUTOKO, IVSN INTEROPERABILITY WITH GERMAN MILITARY NETWORK IS ASSURED.

C. FOR SAKE OF STANDARDIZATION (STRONGLY ESPOUSED BY US) OTHER EUROPEAN NATIONS SHOULD ADOPT AUTOKO, GIVING INTER-OPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS THROUGHOUT MOST OF NATO EUROPE.
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6. MISSION BELIEVES THAT IVSN PROGRAM MAY SUFFER SERIOUSLY IF IT COMES UP FOR FURTHER QUESTIONING AT MARCH 1975 NJCEC MEETING. SUCH QUESTIONING PROBABLY WOULD LEAD TO DELAY, GIVING ITALY AND OTHER NATIONS AN OPPORTUNITY TO CHALLENGE THE CONCEPT AND AGAIN ARGUE FOR NATO TO PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO AN ALL-DIGITAL SYSTEM. THIS SERIES OF EVENTS COULD SERIOUSLY DAMAGE THE NICS PROGRAM.

7. ALTHOUGH THE UVSN SPECIFICATIONS ARE NOT COMPLETELY TO OUR LIKING, MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT THE US ACCEPT THEM IF POSSIBLE. MISSION WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO STATE THIS ACCEPTANCE FOLLOWING THE NICSMA BRIEFING ON FEB 18, A CHANGE FROM THE COURSE OF ACTION RECOMMENDED IN REF B.

8. REQUEST GUIDANCE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS ON FEB 18.
BRUCE.

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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